

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. By this amendment, claims 1, 13, and 20 are amended, and claims 28-30 are added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. Claim Rejections

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 13, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps which allegedly amounts to a gap between the steps. In particular, the Examiner notes that the omission of the steps where the correction scope model determines that the text component should not be adjusted from claims 1, 13, and 20 amounts to a gap between the steps. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claims 1, 13, and 20 recite methods for correcting text input into a text document where the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted. Applicants respectfully submit that no essential steps regarding the method where the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted have been omitted from claims 1, 13, and 20. Applicants further assert that not including the steps where the correction scope model determines that the scope of correction should not be adjusted does not amount to a gap in the method. Instead, not including those steps indicates the breadth for which the Applicants intended the claims to recite. As noted in MPEP §2173.04, “[b]readth of a claim is not to be equated with indefiniteness.” Therefore, Applicants assert that claims 1, 13, and 20 comply with 35 U.S.C. §112. Moreover, Applicants have added new claims 28, 29, and 30 which depend from claims 1, 13, and 20, respectively, and recite the steps where the correction scope model determines that the text component should not be adjusted.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Over Miller in View of Word 2000

Claims 1-9 and 11-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 5,896,321 to Miller et al. (hereinafter “Miller”) in view of Microsoft Word 2000, Screen Shots pages 1-5 (hereinafter “Word 2000”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claim 1 recites that a method for correcting text input into a text document comprises submitting an erroneous text component to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the erroneous text component and at least one text component from the text selection input adjacent the erroneous text component.

Miller does not disclose a method for correcting text input into a text document as recited by claim 1. On the contrary, Miller discloses a method for obtaining a prioritized list of word predictions for a partial data entry including monitoring the receipt of a string of characters into a program module; determining whether a partial data entry satisfies search criteria such as, for example, a minimum number of characters; if so, obtaining a prioritized list of word predictions from the word prediction system; determining whether the obtained word predictions satisfy display criteria such as, for example, a minimum number of additional characters more than the partial data entry; and if so, displaying the word predictions in priority order in a list box on the LCD display. This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 1 because Miller fails to disclose submitting the partial data entry to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the partial data entry and at least one data entry from the data being entered adjacent the partial data entry. Instead, Miller discloses determining whether the partial data entry includes at least a predefined number of characters and whether the obtained word predictions include at least a predefined number of additional characters more than the partial data entry, without suggesting submitting the partial data entry to a correction scope model to determine if the scope of correction needs to be adjusted, and if so, then

receiving a text unit including the partial data entry and at least one data entry from the data being entered adjacent the partial data entry.

The Office Action recognizes that Miller does not disclose submitting the erroneous text component to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if so, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the erroneous text component and at least one text component from the text input selection adjacent the erroneous text component. The Office Action relies on the teaching of Word 2000 to allegedly cure the above-identified deficiencies of the teaching of Miller. However, like Miller, Word 2000 does not disclose a method for correcting text input into a text document as recited by claim 1. In contrast, Word 2000 discloses an AutoCorrect function which automatically corrects certain typing mistakes when a user is typing. For example, when a user types the text component "askt he," Word 2000 discloses that the text component "askt he" is checked against the entries in an AutoCorrect table illustrated on screen 3. If the text component is found in the AutoCorrect table, then Word 2000 replaces the text component "askt he" with an AutoCorrect alternative, which in this case is "ask the." This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 1 because Word 2000 does not disclose submitting the text component "askt" to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the text component "askt" and at least one text component from the text entered by the user adjacent the text component "askt", such as "he." Instead, Word 2000 discloses that the AutoCorrect function checks the typed text component "askt he" against the entries in the AutoCorrect table, and if the text component matches one of the entries, then Word 2000 discloses that the text component "askt he" is replaced by "ask the," without suggesting that the AutoCorrect function returns a text unit including "askt he" and at least one text component from the text typed by the user adjacent the text component "askt he."

For at least the reasons given above, claim 1 is allowable over the combined teaching of Miller and Word 2000. Since claims 2-9 and 11-12 depend from claim 1 and

recite additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that the combined teaching of Miller and Word 2000 does not make obvious Applicants' claimed invention as embodied in claims 2-9 and 11-12 for at least these reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

As amended, claim 13 recites that a method for correcting text input into a text document comprises submitting the erroneous text component to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the erroneous text component and at least one text component from the text selection input adjacent the erroneous text component.

Miller does not disclose a method for correcting text input into a text document as recited by claim 13. Instead, as discussed above, Miller discloses a method for obtaining a prioritized list of word predictions for a partial data entry including determining whether a partial data entry satisfies search criteria such as, for example, a minimum number of characters; if so, obtaining a prioritized list of word predictions from the word prediction system; determining whether the obtained word predictions satisfy display criteria such as, for example, a minimum number of additional characters more than the partial data entry; and if so, displaying the word predictions in priority order in a list box on the LCD display. This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 13 because Miller fails to disclose submitting the partial data entry to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the partial data entry and at least one partial data entry.

As discussed above, the Office Action recognizes that Miller does not disclose submitting the erroneous text component to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if so, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the erroneous text component and at least one text component from the text selection input adjacent the erroneous text component. The

Office Action relies on the teaching of Word 2000 to allegedly cure the above-identified deficiencies of the teaching of Miller. However, like Miller, Word 2000 does not disclose a method for correcting text input into a text document as recited by claim 13. On the contrary, Word 2000 discloses an AutoCorrect function which automatically corrects certain typing mistakes when a user is typing. For example, when a user types the text component “askt he,” Word 2000 discloses that the text component “askt he” is checked against the entries in the AutoCorrect table illustrated on screen 3, and if the text component is found in the, then the text component “askt he” is replaced with an AutoCorrect alternative, which in this case is “ask the.” This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 13 because Word 2000 does not disclose submitting the text component “askt” to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if the correction scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the text component “askt” and at least one text component from the text entered by the user adjacent the text component “askt”, such as “he.” Instead, Word 2000 discloses that the AutoCorrect function checks the typed text component “askt he” against the entries in the AutoCorrect table, and if the text component matches one of the entries, then Word 2000 discloses that the text component “askt he” is replaced by “ask the,” without suggesting that the AutoCorrect function returns a text unit including “askt he” and at least one text component from the text typed by the user adjacent the text component “askt he.”

For at least the reasons given above, claim 13 is allowable over the combined teaching of Miller and Word 2000. Since claims 14-19 depend from claim 13 and recite additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that the combined teaching of Miller and Word 2000 does not make obvious Applicants’ claimed invention as embodied in claims 14-19 for at least these reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

As amended, claim 20 recites that a method for correcting text input into a text document comprises submitting the erroneous text component to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if the correction

scope model determines the scope of correction should be adjusted, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the erroneous text component and at least one text component from the text selection input adjacent the erroneous text component.

Miller does not disclose a method for correcting text input into a text document as recited by claim 20. In contrast, as discussed above, Miller discloses determining whether the partial data entry includes at least a predefined number of characters (search criteria) and whether the obtained word predictions include at least a predefined number of additional characters more than the partial data entry (display criteria), without suggesting submitting the partial data entry to a correction scope model to determine if the scope of correction needs to be adjusted, and if so, then receiving a text unit including the partial data entry and at least one data entry from the data being entered adjacent the partial data entry.

The Office Action recognizes that Miller does not disclose submitting the erroneous text component to a correction scope model to determine if a scope of correction should be adjusted, and if so, then receiving from the correction scope model a text unit that includes the erroneous text component and at least one text component from the text selection input adjacent the erroneous text component. The Office Action again relies on the teaching of Word 2000 to allegedly cure the above-identified deficiencies of the teaching of Miller. However, like Miller, Word 2000 does not disclose a method for correcting text input into a text document as recited by claim 20. In contrast, Word 2000 discloses an AutoCorrect function which automatically corrects certain typing mistakes when a user is typing. For example, when a user types the text component “askt he,” Word 2000 discloses that the text component “askt he” is checked against the entries in the AutoCorrect table illustrated on screen 3, and if the text component is found in the, then the text component “askt he” is replaced with an AutoCorrect alternative, which in this case is “ask the.” This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 20 because Word 2000 discloses that the AutoCorrect function checks the typed text component “askt he” against the entries in the AutoCorrect table, and if the text component matches one of the entries, then Word 2000 discloses that the text component “askt he” is replaced

by “ask the,” without suggesting that the AutoCorrect function returns a text unit including “askt he” and at least one text component from the text typed by the user adjacent the text component “askt he.”

For at least the reasons given above, claim 20 is allowable over the combined teaching of Miller and Word 2000. Since claims 21-27 depend from claim 20 and recite additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that the combined teaching of Miller and Word 2000 does not make obvious Applicants’ claimed invention as embodied in claims 21-27 for at least these reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Over Miller in View of Word 2000 and Oberteuffer

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller in view of Word 2000 and further in view of United States Patent No. 6,438,523 to Oberteuffer et al. (hereinafter “Oberteuffer”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

For at least the reasons stated above, claim 1 is allowable over the combined teaching of Miller and Word 2000. Since claim 10 depends from claim 1 and recites additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that the combined teaching of Miller, Word 2000, and Oberteuffer does not make obvious claim 10. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

II. New Claims 28-30

New claims 28, 29, and 30 depend from claims 1, 13, and 20, respectively, and are directed to further embodiments of Applicants’ claimed invention. Support for new claims 28-30 may be found at page 19, line 17 through page 25, line 11 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 28 is allowable over the art of record for at least the reasons given above with regard to claim 1; new claim 29 is allowable over the art of record for at least the reasons given above with regard to claim

13; and new claim 30 is allowable over the art of record for at least the reasons given above with regard to claim 20.

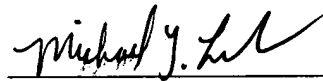
CONCLUSION

For at least these reasons, Applicants assert that the pending claims 1-30 are in condition for allowance. Applicants further assert that this response addresses each and every point of the final Office Action, and respectfully request that the Examiner pass this application with claims 1-30 to allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at 404.954.5042.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD, LLC

MERCHANT & GOULD, LLC
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(404) 954.5100



Michael T. Lukon
Reg. No. 48,164